



EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIR NEAR LUTHER BURBANK PARK

March 8, 2007

We're almost done! Sewer Repair Project Coming to a Close

As winter winds down, King County is wrapping up the emergency project to replace sewer pipe on North Mercer Island. Since December, Frank Coluccio Construction Company (FCCC) and Buno Construction have been working to replace sewer pipe running from 81st Avenue Southeast on Southeast 24th street to a connection with the lake line in Luther Burbank Park. 84th Avenue Southeast, closed since Dec., will reopen for general traffic once work is completed.

Project Update

FCCC first set up a bypass line to divert flows from the damaged pipe. This bypass pipe was extended into Luther Burbank Park when county inspection staff found damage in the pipe section extending from North Mercer Way into the park.

Next, crews began replacing pipe sections below Southeast 24th Street, 84th Avenue Southeast, and Luther Burbank Park using a method called *pipe bursting*. Pipe bursting involves expanding the old pipe with a *bursting head* while pulling the new pipe in place. The bursting head is moved forward into a *pull pit*.

On February 8, pipe bursting operations caused damage to a water line. Plans indicated up to two feet between the water and sewer lines, but the water line was installed with little or no clearance above the sewer line. When the pipe bursting head expanded the old pipe, it

made contact with the water line. The contractor repaired the water line and created additional clearance between the two pipes. County staff worked with affected neighbors during the repair operation, when they were without water service.

What's next?

FCCC crews will finish installing new manholes that meet current standards, and tie in new pipe sections. Once crews are finished connecting the system, they will test it, and then put it into permanent service. The new pipe will provide safe and reliable service for decades to come.

Neighbors will see Puget Sound Energy crews working on Southeast 24th Street and 84th Avenue Southeast between April 15 and May 15. PSE will perform service upgrades that were put on hold when Southeast 24th Street was repaved. Once PSE crews complete work, both 24th Street and 84th Avenue Southeast will be resurfaced between May 15 and June 1.

Restoration in Luther Burbank Park

King County will restore the parking and construction areas in Luther Burbank Park. The entrance will be repaired, and the overflow parking lot will have a new surface and paint.

The contractor will remove construction materials from the wetland area in Luther Burbank Park and restore disturbed areas and the city's utility access walkway.
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King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks

Wastewater Treatment Division

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This fall, the county will coordinate a community planting event to restore vegetation in the construction area. Fall is the best time for this since it will give the new plants a chance to grow healthy roots over the rainy winter season.

Thanks to project neighbors

King County staff wishes to express thanks to the neighbors, city staff, and park and community center users for their patience during this emergency repair project. We know that any construction project can create noise, traffic impacts, dust, and service disruptions, and we appreciate the community's working with us to address these issues.

King County protects public health and the environment by providing wastewater treatment services for 17 cities and 17 local sewer utilities, including Mercer Island. Wastewater collected from businesses and homes by the City of Mercer Island travels to King County's wastewater treatment facility in Renton through pipes owned and operated by the County.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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